

Provo, the Center of a Prolific Fruit-Growing Section



PROVO CITY has enjoyed a prosperous year and many improvements, public and private, have been made. Among them the erection of the Carnegie library, a beautiful building on Center and First East streets, at a cost of \$19,000, exclusive of the land, which was given by Jesse Knight, Reed Smoot and other public-spirited citizens. The federal building, now in course of erection, will cost at least \$65,000. An unusually large number of private residences have been built. Many of them are pretentious buildings, an ornament to any city. The estimated cost of these improvements is about \$200,000.

CIVIC IMPROVEMENTS.
The city has extended the paved sidewalks till there are now 20 miles of cement walks in the city. The sewer system has also been, and is now being extended in a systematic manner, with a view to obtaining one of the best sewer systems in the state. Additional water from the springs in Provo canyon has been collected and the water system enlarged.

BEAUTIFUL LOCATION.
Provo City is the county seat of Utah county, and contains about 10,000 inhabitants and has one of the most beautiful locations imaginable. The mighty Wasatch mountains on the east form picturesque background for the beautiful homes and their attractive surroundings, and the canyon breezes from the snow-capped peaks modify the heat of summer. The streams afford good fishing and the Provo canyon

is becoming noted as a summer resort, where many of the citizens have summer residences, and where numerous public places are open to visitors. The beautiful Utah lake teems with trout and bass and other fish, and its shores are the homes of ducks and other game, and attract sportsmen from all parts of the state.

FRUIT GROWING.
The soil is rich and the climate ideal for fruit raising as well as for farm productions. The fruit growing industry has received special attention for the past few years, and this season 600 cars of fruit—peaches, pears, apples, etc.—have been shipped to markets in the east. In addition to this, large quantities of potatoes and other vegetables, and lucern seed are shipped from Provo each year. But in an agricultural way, it is as a fruit-growing district that Provo and vicinity is destined to become noted. The bench land on the north swept by the canyon breezes is free from frost and, therefore, a good crop of fruit is assured each season. That the fruit business pays is proved by the fact that bearing orchards produce from \$300 to \$1,500 an acre. A great portion of the farming land is devoted to beet raising and a good market is found for the beets from the Lehi Sugar company which has an auxiliary plant near the city for extracting the juice from the beets, which is transferred to the factory at Lehi through a pipe line.

LIVE STOCK.
The live-stock industry, another im-

portant feature in the development of the city and surrounding country. Public spirited citizens interested in the improvement of the horses and cattle of the country, have spent large amounts of money in importing pure-bred horses and cattle, and the county is becoming noted for its fine live stock. Every year in the spring a horse show is held under the auspices of the Commercial club, at which fine horses are brought from every part of the county and other Utah points and placed on exhibition. The dairy and creamery industry is also one of growing importance.

THE MINING INDUSTRY.
Provo is pre-eminently a mining center. Jesse Knight, C. E. Loose, L. Holbrook, Reed Smoot, and many other prominent mining men have their homes here, and all of the Knight companies have their principal offices here. This has caused the people generally to take a great interest in the mining markets. Many have made fortunes from the development of Tintic and other mines, and some have been so fortunate. There is also considerable development work going on in the mountains east of Provo, where rich float and good indications of minerals in paying quantities have been found. So far, however, no paying mines have been opened up; but work is being steadily prosecuted on a number of claims, and the prospects for opening up a good deposit of ore at any time are very encouraging.

EDUCATIONAL.
It is especially as an educational center that Provo takes high rank. It has an excellent public school system with over 2,000 pupils enrolled, and 35 teachers. The Brigham Young university, with nearly 2,000 students and 65 instructors, is so well known throughout the state and the entire west country that it needs no favorable comment. It is enough to say that this big educational institution is growing and is adding to its great reputation every year.

CHURCHES AND SOCIETIES.
Many of the leading churches are represented in addition to the Latter-day Saints, and the fraternal orders are in evidence. The people live together in mutual respect and good will, regardless of creed, and newcomers are welcomed by all classes, and will easily find congenial associates, religiously and socially.

MANUFACTURES AND INDUSTRIES.
Provo has splendid facilities for manufacturing, with large water power and the Telluride Power company's big plant in Provo canyon. It has the largest woolen mills between the Missouri river and California, and although they have been closed for some time, the prospects are good for their reopening the coming year. When they were in operation they employed about 200 people. Among the other manufacturing plants are the Startup Candy factory, the Provo Foundry & Machine company, the Provo Carriage factory, the Provo Pressed Brick company, the Utah County Canning factory, Pease Bros., cigars, Hendricks's pottery, and others.

The city has three banks. Two wholesale grocery establishments. A first class hospital. A fine opera house. Up-to-date dry goods, grocery, and clothing stores, furniture stores and in fact all classes of business are well represented. A commercial club with a large membership is constantly awake to the interests of the people.

A BRIGHT FUTURE.
The future looks bright in a material sense, with the advent of the Moffatt road opening up the rich mineral, agricultural and stock raising country to the east Provo will have three transcontinental lines, and important additional territory will be opened as a market for the factories and industries which are and will be established here. The two railroads now here promise to erect a union depot and to make other extensive local improvements during the year. The Maestri Memorial building to cost about \$100,000, will be erected on the high grounds east of the Brigham Young university, and will form the nucleus for a group of magnificent buildings to be erected for the university. The Proctor academy will build a \$10,000 dormitory for the accommodation of students from a distance, and many dwellings and private business houses are contemplated. Many people are coming in from Colorado and the east and locating here. The Colorado people will generally engage in fruit growing and are buying lands for that purpose. Many people have also come from different parts of the state and settled here in order to take advantage of the educational facilities.

There is a prospect of the erection of cement works by eastern capitalists. The mountains of limestone on the east have been tested and found superior for the manufacture of cement, and on the west side of the lake there are large deposits of cement rock, probably better even than the lime stone in the east. If this project goes

through it will make a big payroll for the city and a profitable investment for the promoters.

A government fish hatchery for spring creek, near Springville, has been promised. This will make the stocking of the lake with trout, bass and other fish a comparatively easy matter, and will not only add to its attractiveness for the sportsmen, but will increase its value commercially, as large quantities of fish can be raised for the market.

STATE MENTAL HOSPITAL.
The State Mental hospital situated immediately east of the city, was opened July 20, 1885. In the report of the board of directors to the legislature in 1888, the number of patients is given as 51. There are now 352 patients in the institution; but this is a smaller number than were being treated four years ago. One reason for this is that Dr. D. H. Calder, the medical superintendent, has caused the removal and return to their native countries of a large number of patients who were subject to return under the emigration laws.

SOME IMPROVEMENTS.
Some of the improvements made during the past year are:
The erection of new bath and toilet rooms; the remodeling of the interior of the south wing, making additional sleeping rooms; extending ward "H" the full length of the other wards, giving additional space for patients; the increase being room for 25; the interior has been repainted throughout, and new carpets, rugs, chairs, etc., have been purchased.

Thirteen acres of land have been purchased which gives the institution 273 acres. Of this, however, 160 acres are highland pasture. The land owned by the institution is not enough to produce farm products sufficient for its needs, and should be increased up to at least 500 acres. In addition to the advantage of producing that which is consumed by the hospital community the benefit to a large class of patients from outdoor exercise in manual labor is not a slight consideration and an increase of land would increase opportunities for work.

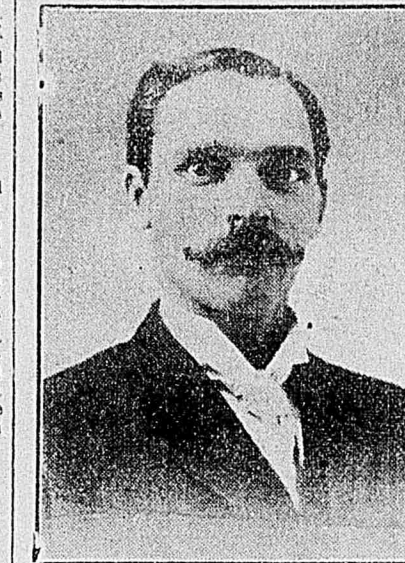
The dairy herd has been augmented from the internal income, and the stock kept on the farm is the best. The farm is under the immediate direction of James Boyden, an experienced farmer, and is in a high state of cultivation. From it, and the live stock, are produced a large share of the products consumed in the hospital, and the object should be to have all the farm products needed raised on the state's grounds owned by the hospital.

The question of water for culinary purposes and for protection against fire has been an important one since the beginning. The hospital now pays Provo City \$1,000 a year rent for water from the city's system, and then there have been difficulties about a sufficient supply in the low water season. In case of a fire this would be a very serious condition.

To overcome this difficulty, the hospital authorities have appropriated springs in Slate canyon, which will furnish sufficient water for culinary purposes and for fire protection. The next legislature will be asked for an appropriation of \$20,000 to convey this water to the hospital, and it certainly is one of the great needs of the state's largest benevolent institution.

In the way of general improvements, which are always going on under the careful supervision of Dr. Calder, there have been additional ornamental gardening, and the entrance gate has been extended along Center street, and a fine cement and brick wall, with ornamental gates, placed at the boundary of the hospital grounds. The executive officials of the institution are: Dr. D. H. Calder, medical superintendent; Dr. Frederick Cliff, assistant physician; W. R. H. Paxman, steward, JAMES FARRER.

T. Farrer. The fact that Provo's club is a real, live, organization with club



J. T. FARRER,
President of Commercial Club, Provo.

rooms in constant use is due largely to its energetic president, Mr. Farrer was born in Provo, where for the last 19 years he has been connected with the Provo Commercial & Savings Bank, and for 10 years as its cashier. He has been president of the city council, city treasurer for two terms and has occupied various other public offices of responsibility and trust.

THE SINKS OF THE SEAS.

It lies between the meridians of 40 degrees and 75 degrees west, and between the parallels of 20 degrees and 35 degrees north, and Columbus first brought back to Europe the story of its being. Yet the old-time navigator's account was very hazy and uncertain.

He spoke of a vast stretch of marshy weed, spreading from horizon to far horizon; a place of dim, uncertain horrors, reaching out grasping tentacles toward the broad seas, luring by its unceasing unsuspecting ships into its rapacious maw, from which no craft might ever hope to win freedom. And today, more than 400 years since

Columbus voyaged forth, but little is known of the weird Sargasso sea.

Long ago, in the backwaters of time, great rivers poured their mighty floods towards the sea, and on their swift currents were borne vast fragments of vegetation, clinging driftwood, ancient tree trunks, the amazing litter that throngs a river's tide. From the far south, like a river in the sea, great currents swept all conquering, lashing the verdant South American coasts, tearing from thence great clumps of weed, long masses of grasses, on to more draftwood, more vegetation. These currents rebounded from the Mexican gulf and swept circling out to the broad Atlantic, but other currents met them there and a gigantic maelstrom ensued. All floating debris was swung into the vortex of this huge boiling conflict of rushing water, and little by little, yet resistlessly, the various detached portions of weed took hold one upon the other, until in the slow process of time a great bed was formed—a floating island—lashed on its borders by the seas, but tranquil and unmoved in its midst. Centuries added to its bulk, the rivers of the Americas contributed their quotas to the whole, and now the entire stretch is one swaying, floating continent, without foundations, treacherous, awful, immutable.

Mariners know it, but they shun it as the plague. It is an unhallowed place. Its grasp spells slow and lingering death. Woe betide the unfortunate sailing ship that once gains a

position near it, for insidious currents run sub-surface to drag the helpless, windless craft into its maw, where entangling channels open up to allow the inward passage of a vessel, only to be followed by the closing in of the weeds—to look the unfortunate in a grip that naught can loose.

Even the steamers of high power give the Sargasso sea a wide berth, for the long, clogging weed binds itself draggingly about the strongest propeller and jams it tight, so that though hundreds of horsepower be called upon to free the useless screw it is all of no avail.—London Saturday Journal.

WATERPROOFING MATCHES.

Perhaps some of your readers would be interested to know that I have found a simple, inexpensive way to waterproof matches. Into some melted paraffin (care being taken that it was as cool as possible) I dipped a few ordinary parlor matches. After withdrawing them and allowing them to cool it was found that they scratched almost as easily as before being coated with the wax. Several were held under water for six or seven hours and all of them lighted as easily as before immersion. When the match is scratched the paraffin is first rubbed off and the match as above would be very useful on camping or canoeing trips, as they do not absorb moisture. Since more rubbing is required to light than the ordinary match it would be practically impossible to set them on fire by accidental dropping.—Scientific American.

Ironing By Pressure

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